

# Building a BetterKY>

*Kentucky Commission on Military Affairs*  
(KCMA)

Executive Director Report  
4 December 2020

# Mission, Vision & Values

- The Kentucky Commission on Military Affairs was created to serve as a watchdog for the military community in Kentucky and to be a bridge for bringing programs across the Commonwealth together to benefit military, veterans and their families.
  - KRS 154.12-203 (1996)
  - 2 full time staff
  - Membership includes:
    - Leaders of major Kentucky military installations and units
    - Governor, senior staff, cabinet secretaries, Attorney General, Chief Justice
    - Kentucky General Assembly (one Senator and one Representative)
    - Civilian Aides to the Secretary of the Army
    - At-Large members appointed by Governor
    - Chair, Employer Support of the Guard and Reserve

# Mission, Vision & Values

**Mission:** Guided by Kentucky statute, the Kentucky Commission on Military Affairs addresses matters of military significance by advising and synchronizing efforts with key stakeholders; protecting and growing our military installations and activities; expanding its defense-related industry; and improving the quality of life for our service members, veterans, and their families.

**Vision:** Kentucky achieves its full potential in supporting and partnering with our military while creating enduring economic opportunity for the Commonwealth.

# Mission, Vision & Values

## **Strategic Goals**

- **Protect and Grow DOD Installations and Activities**
- **Expand the Economic Impact of Kentucky's Defense-Related Industry**
- **Develop and Implement the Model for Transitioning Service Members/Veterans/Spouses**
- **Establish Kentucky as the Most Military Friendly State and Grow Veterans/Retiree Population**
- **Communicate Strategically and Gain Advocacy**

# KENTUCKY

**#14**  
\$11.0 B SPENT  
IN STATE

**#9**  
5.2% OF STATE GDP

**2.2%**  
OF TOTAL U.S.  
DEFENSE SPENDING

**\$2,455**  
PER RESIDENT

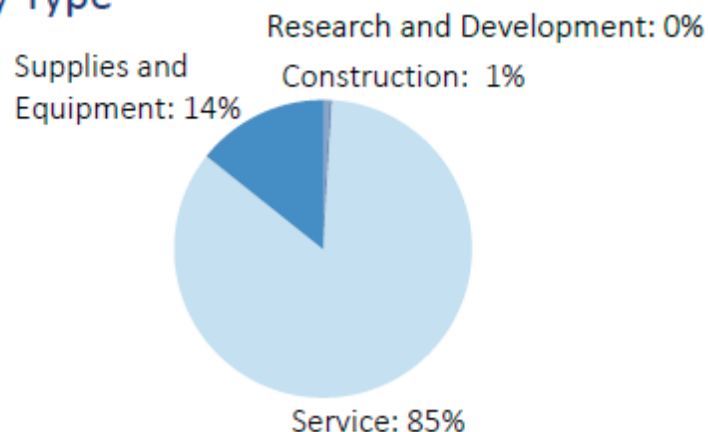
**#13**  
\$8.2 B CONTRACT  
SPENDING

**#17**  
54,837 NUMBER  
OF PERSONNEL

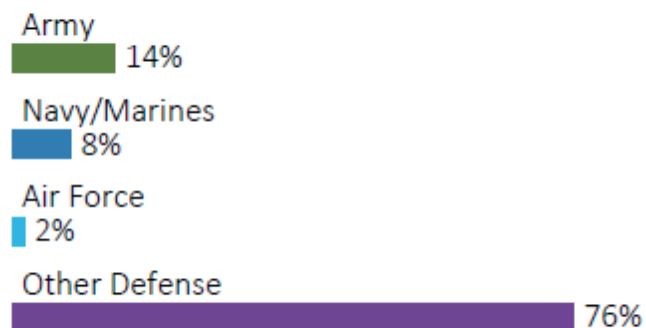
**#14**  
\$2.8 B PERSONNEL  
SPENDING

## DEFENSE CONTRACTS

### By Type



### By Service



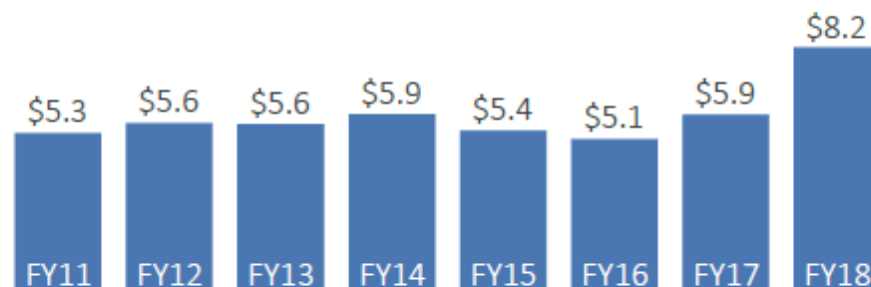
### Top Defense Contractors

(M = millions, B = billions)

Humana	\$5.2 B
Lockheed Martin	\$567.2 M
Raytheon	\$558.5 M
Bechtel Parsons Blue Grass JV	\$262.7 M
Boeing	\$144.4 M
BAE Systems	\$105.8 M
UPS	\$85.2 M
Southeastern Kentucky Rehabilitation Industries Inc.	\$61.0 M
SourceAmerica	\$46.0 M
SAIC	\$43.1 M

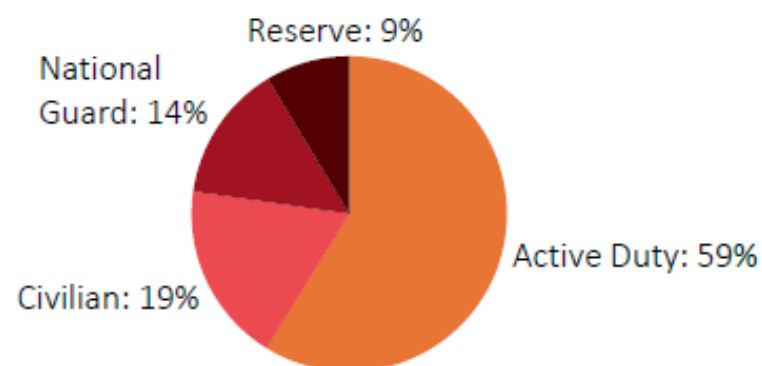
### Contract Awards Performed

(by fiscal year, billions)



## DEFENSE PERSONNEL

### Allocations, By Type



### Allocations, By Service



**\$2.8 BILLION**  
TOTAL PAYROLL

**54,837**  
TOTAL PERSONNEL

### Top Defense Personnel Locations

County	Active Duty	Civilian	National Guard	Reserve	Total
Christian	26,498	2,629	31	177	29,335
Hardin	5,459	4,459	129	2,588	12,635
Jefferson	132	1,178	1,849	632	3,791
Madison	ND	989	675	24	ND
Franklin	20	289	1,040	ND	ND
Fayette	71	105	234	561	971
Boone	ND	21	562	ND	ND
Campbell	ND	24	ND	389	ND
Muhlenberg	ND	70	241	ND	ND
McCracken	ND	13	92	181	ND

Data sources: DoD's Defense Manpower Data Center; DoD's Procurement and Acquisition Policy; DoD's Military Installations, Ranges and Training Areas; USASpending.gov; U.S. Bureau of Economic Analysis; U.S. Census Bureau; and U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development.

# Protect and Grow DOD Installations and Activities

- V (Fifth) Corps Headquarters at Fort Knox
- Successful KYANG C-130J Recapitalization effort
- Supported City of Louisville in competition for U.S. Space Command HQ
  - Passed initial round; failed to make list of six finalists
- Future Vertical Lift at Fort Campbell
  - Replacement for CH-47 expected to become operational by 2028-2030
  - Shorter-term potential for joint Kentucky-Tennessee CH-47 unit
  - New Commanding General in February
    - MG JP McGee vice MG Brian Winski
      - MG McGee Director Army Talent Management Task Force; served at Fort Campbell 2006-2009
      - MG Winski slated to become the Army G3 (Operations)

# Protect and Grow DOD Installations and Activities

- \$15M NDAA allocation for Kentucky National Guard Joint Forces Headquarters building at Boone National Guard Center in Frankfort
- Kentucky Air National Guard broke ground in July on a new \$8.9M Contingency Response Forces Facility in Louisville
  - 28,000-square-foot, two-story structure housing the Contingency Response Group, Security Forces Squadron, base honor guard and a medical detachment for the state's CBRNE Enhanced Response Force Package (Chemical, Biological, Radiological, Nuclear and high-yield explosive Enhanced Response Force Package)
- \$889.5M for continuing chemical munitions disposal at Blue Grass Army Depot
  - Completion of disposal on track for December 2023, followed by three year remediation program
  - Army logistics operations are booming at site; well positioned for next several decades



# Protect and Grow DOD Installations and Activities

- Fort Campbell \$87.4M housing development and restoration plan
  - The construction, starting next year and slated for completion in 2023, will create 144 new homes and renovate another 170 for 3-and-4-bedroom junior enlisted homes on post in their “Campbell Crossing” subdivision
  - 65 percent of the post’s homes are pre-1978 vintage
  - Funding comes from the post’s Campbell Crossing reinvestment account
- Ongoing PPSG coordination to constantly evaluate Strengths/Weaknesses/Opportunities/Threats (SWOT)
  - Monitoring and developing arguments for potential relocation of Army assets in Europe to Kentucky

# Expand the Economic Impact of Kentucky's Defense-Related Industry

- Business development support to the Cabinet for Economic Development/KRDA
- Exploring the long-term potential for creating a dual-use (military-civilian) airport at the Kentucky National Guard-operated Lexington Bluegrass Station
- Educating Army leadership on the opportunity for DOD to purchase the Crestwood Subterranean Facility
- Hosted Rare Earth Elements conference call with the DOD Industrial Policy Office (Acquisitions and Sustainment), CED, University of Kentucky

# Expand the Economic Impact of Kentucky's Defense-Related Industry

- Coordinating with Blue Grass Army Depot and the local community regarding the acquisition and repurposing of the 55-acre Chemical Weapons Demilitarization Facility following remediation in December 2026
  - Potential includes Hyper-Scale Data Center development
  - Jobs for 1,300+ displaced contract workers
- Working with KRDA and CED to explore the potential for the Defense Manufacturing Community Program grants through the DOD Office of Economic Adjustment
  - Looking at potential DOD OEA grant to support BGAD process
  - Opportunities for community projects related to military installations

# Develop and Implement the Model for Transitioning Service Members/Veterans/Spouses

- \$2M DOD grant to create University of Louisville “Cybersecurity, Certifications, Careers and Communities” (C4) program
  - Allowed us to hire contract Grant Program Manager, Dr. Dallas Kratzer, to facilitate workforce development for military/spouses/veterans
- Army “Skillbridge” partnership with Kentucky Department of Veterans Affairs
- KRDA earned Association of Defense Communities national recognition this summer creating a website for military spouses to receive proactive career coaching and professional networking opportunities
  - Intent to develop a similar program for Fort Campbell/Christian County

# Develop and Implement the Model for Transitioning Service Members/Veterans/Spouses

- State Commissioner for Military Interstate Children's Compact Commission, supporting military families
  - Highlighted HB 266 as a national best practice facilitating school enrollment for military children
  - Working with Communications Office on video concept to highlight activities
- Supporting KDVA/CHFS Kentucky Prevention and Program Branch to develop "Purple Star" program for schools across Kentucky
  - New DOD priority to recognize schools and communities that value students and families connected to our nation's armed forces
  - Initial evaluation stages, some funding likely required
    - Awards/recognition ceremonies/educational programs
    - Estimated 18,000 military dependent children in Kentucky ages 18-under

# Develop and Implement the Model for Transitioning Service Members/Veterans/Spouses

- Supporting grant opportunities
  - University of Louisville's application for a U.S. Department of Education Centers of Excellence for Veteran Student Success grant
  - Kentucky Center for Agriculture and Rural Development (KCARD) AgVets grant for their "Connecting Kentucky Veterans to Agriculture Opportunities" project
- Partnership with ECU Center for Veterans Studies
- Working with the Kentucky Workforce and Education Collaborative on potential veterans' related Workforce Development grant opportunities
- Working with Frankfort Police and the Department of Criminal Justice Training on pathways to make it easier for military-trained police to transition to civilian police forces
  - Invaluable partners in VALLO (KSTC), KDVA, legal community

# Establish Kentucky as the Most Military Friendly State and Grow Veterans/Retiree Population

- Gov. Beshear received letter in July from Acting Under Secretary of Defense Matt Donovan praising Kentucky for our military spouse licensure initiatives in the General Assembly the past two years
  - DOD is urging other states to emulate Kentucky's "best practice"
- Governor Beshear also received a letter from Secretary of the Air Force Barbara Barrett in August informing him of the commitment of the Air Force to utilize state school quality and occupational licensing portability as part their decision-making processes for Air Force missions

# Establish Kentucky as the Most Military Friendly State and Grow Veterans/Retiree Population

- 2021 Legislative Agenda focused on military spouse occupational licensing initiatives
  - Held first two Christian County Chamber of Commerce Military Spouse Working Group meetings, in coordination with Rep. Walker Thomas, chair of the House Veterans, Military Affairs & Public Protection Committee, and the State Liaison Office, DoD Military Community & Family Policy
- Fixing unintended flaw in Kentucky driver's license statute
- Facilitated USO coordination with Greater Louisville Inc. and Louisville Regional Airport Authority to open a USO facility for military, veterans and their families at the Louisville Muhammad Ali International Airport in August 2020; exploring a possible Fort Knox USO facility



# Establish Kentucky as the Most Military Friendly State and Grow Veterans/Retiree Population

- 2021 Legislative Agenda focused on military spouse occupational licensing initiatives
  - Audiology Speech Language Pathology Compact
  - Psychology Interjurisdictional Compact
  - Emergency Medical Services Compact
  - Top remaining Department of Defense priority occupational licensing reciprocity compacts for military personnel/spouses - Kentucky has already passed two of the five DOD priority compacts and is a member of 39 state compacts, higher than most states
- Held first two Christian County Chamber of Commerce Military Spouse Working Group meetings, in coordination with Rep. Walker Thomas, chair of the House Veterans, Military Affairs & Public Protection Committee, and the State Liaison Office, DoD Military Community & Family Policy

# Establish Kentucky as the Most Military Friendly State and Grow Veterans/Retiree Population

- Additional Legislative Goals
  - Fixing unintended flaw in Kentucky driver's license statute
  - Establishment of Uniform Deployed Parents Custody and Visitation Act
  - Inclusion of ASVAB test in school accountability system
  - Motor vehicle insurance - prohibition of "Patriot Penalty" for military
  - Authorization/funding for Bluegrass Station airfield (commercial/military)
  - Consideration of full military retirement income tax deduction
    - Currently all pensions exempt for first \$31,100
    - To attract senior officer/enlisted retirees to Kentucky
    - Military income tax exemption already in place (passed in 2009)
    - Good policy – the challenge for both the Beshear Administration and the General Assembly is the up-front cost in COVID-stressed budget, estimated at ~\$3.9M

# Communicate Strategically and Gain Advocacy

- Opportunity for U.S. Army high school “JROTC Cyber Pilot” cyber-security certifications program
  - Partnering with KRDA and Kentucky Department of Education
- Governor Beshear to personally presented the 2020 Secretary of Defense Freedom Award, awarded to the nation's top 15 civilian employers of National Guard and Reserve personnel, to Lexmark International
- KCMA Chair Brigadier General (Retired) Jim Iacocca, president of the Knox Regional Development Alliance, and Kelli Pendleton, KCMA executive committee member and President, Christian County Chamber of Commerce, were named by the Secretary of the Army, Ryan McCarthy, as Civilian Aide to the Secretary of the Army (CASA) for Kentucky
  - Both were KCMA executive committee members prior to selection

# Communicate Strategically and Gain Advocacy

- Supporting “America 250,” the national Semiquincentennial Commission to celebrate the 250th anniversary of the United States
- Chair of Kentucky Military Heritage Commission and Governor’s Advisory Board on Veterans Affairs
- Member, multiple boards & commissions, including Emergency Response Commission, Workforce Development
- KCMA Executive Assistant Stacey Shane and I assisted Constituent Services on the Governor’s COVID-19 Hotline March through July, taking over 1,500 direct phone calls and hundreds of emails to help manage our administration’s response to the community

Thank You